

## **DRIVE APPARATUS FOR VEHICLE**

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A drive apparatus basically comprises left and right drive units each including at least a reduction gear, an electric motor without a permanent magnet, and a brake disc.

- 5 Each of the left and right drive units is housed substantially within a rim of each of rear wheels which are driven wheels. A 4WD control unit is configured to control a pair of inverters to separately drive the electric motors when a vehicle speed is in a range between a standing start speed and a prescribed vehicle speed, and to stop driving the electric
- 10 motors when the vehicle speed is equal to or greater than the prescribed vehicle speed to place the rear wheels in a driven state. Accordingly, a friction loss due to a cogging torque encountered in a conventional permanent magnet-type motor is eliminated, and a lightweight drive apparatus is obtained. Fuel efficiency is accordingly improved.